

## Mission

The WESP-DHH Outreach Program supports children who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind by providing a broad array of services to families and educational programs. Services are provided at no cost and are based on the needs of each individual child.



To Learn more, visit our website  
[www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov](http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov)

## Outreach Staff

### **Birth to Six Services Coordinator**

Sherry W. Kimball

### **Cochlear Implant Specialist**

Bev Teeter

### **Deaf-Blind Consultant**

Heidi Hollenberger

### **Deaf Mentor Program Coordinator**

Bonnie Eldred

### **Diagnostic/Educational Specialist**

Stefanie Kessen

### **Educational Audiology Consultant**

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### **Parent Liaison**

Laurie Nelson

### **School Psychology Consultant**

Hollie Barnes

### **Sign Communication Specialist**

Daniel Houlihan

### **Technology Services Coordinator**

Val Timler

### **Transition Coordinator**

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### **Program Director**

Marcy D. Dicker

### **Office Associate**

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WESP-DHH is a program of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Learning Support: Equity and Advocacy.

## WESP-DHH



## Outreach

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## For Birth to 3 Programs and School Districts

### Consultations

Specialized staff can provide free-of-charge evaluation and assessment, written reports and recommendations, consultation and/or training and support to the IFSP/IEP team for students, ages birth to 21, who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind.

For Birth to 3 Program:

- Communication Strengths, Needs & Choices
- Impact of Hearing Loss on Development
- Parent Education Needs
- Information and Resources
- Transition from Birth to 3 to School

For School Districts:

- Educational Achievement
- Intellectual Functioning
- Auditory Development
- Speech/Language Development
- Sign Communication Development
- Social/Emotional Development
- Transition Needs

**Annual Summer Institute (August)**

**Professional Conference (March)**

**Workshops and Skillbuilding Seminars**

**Educational Interpreter Mentoring**

**Consultation via Distance Learning**

**Professional Support Networks**

## For Families...

### Guide By Your Side

A program that provides in-home parent-to-parent support, unbiased information, and links to resources for families with children who are newly diagnosed with hearing loss, immediately at the time of diagnosis and during the time of transition from a Birth to 3 program to the local school district or other programs. This program is designed to be inclusive of all families with children with hearing loss, with or without additional disabilities.

### Deaf Mentor Program

The Deaf Mentor Program supports the child and family's development of visual communication and sign language through in-home ASL instruction and interaction with specially trained Deaf Mentors.

### HELP (In Home Early Listening Program)

A program designed to provide in-home support to families in promoting their child's auditory development.

### Statewide Family Conference (March)

Families from around the state can learn from workshops, discussion groups and networking with other families. There are also planned family activities and childcare.

### WISHES (Wisconsin Infant/children's Statewide Hearing Aid Exchange Service)

A program designed to provide hearing instruments to families for a 6 month loan period.

## For Students...

### Distant Pals

A pen pal program connecting students who are deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind throughout the state.

### Teen Getaway Weekend

A weekend "getaway" for high school students to connect, support positive self-esteem and identity, and build leadership and self-advocacy skills.

### Teen Getaway Weekend Jr.

A weekend "getaway" for middle school students to connect and build positive self-esteem.

### Deaf Studies through Distance Learning

A unique opportunity for students to learn about Deaf history and culture via distance learning technology.

### College Fairs

Join junior and senior high school students around the state and learn about services available for students who are deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind at various colleges and universities.